

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 2 September 2011 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

With reference to my letter dated 22 August 2011 (S/2011/530), regarding the meeting that took place in Khartoum between H.E. President Omer Hassan Ahmed Al-Bashir, H.E. Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister of Ethiopia, and Mr. Malik Agar, Governor of Blue Nile State and the head of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM)/Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), Northern Sector, during which President Omer Hassan Ahmed Al-Bashir expressed genuine commitment to a peaceful political settlement of the situation in Southern Kordofan and the Blue Nile area. Regrettably, I would like to convey to you and through you to the members of the Security Council that the SPLM/Northern Sector, in violation of that spirit, launched last night and today, 2 September 2011, a series of orchestrated military attacks in the area of Al-Damazin, the capital of Blue Nile State.

In this regard, I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ali Ahmed Karti (see annex), which contains the details of the treacherous military attacks by the SPLM/SPLA/Northern Sector in Blue Nile State, as well as their recent attack in Morungi village in Southern Kordofan, which resulted in the death of 14 innocent civilians and the injury of 16 and the displacement of others.

Having brought these serious developments to your kind attention, I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Daffa Alla Elhag Ali **Osman**
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 2 September 2011 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic]

Further to our letter SUN/292/11, dated 22 August 2011, in which we informed the Security Council that the President of the Republic, Mr. Omer Hassan A. Al-Bashir, had received in Khartoum the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, Mr. Meles Zenawi, along with Mr. Malik Agar, leader of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), Northern Sector, and Governor of Blue Nile State, and of the sincere desire the President had expressed in the course of that meeting to work in a positive and constructive manner towards achieving a peaceful resolution to the situation in Southern Kordofan, I write to you to today in order to inform the Council that, while all parties were preparing to act on that initiative, aimed at achieving a peaceful political resolution, Mr. Agar, Governor of Blue Nile State, surprised everyone when he mobilized his forces and attacked Sudan Armed Forces troops that formed part of the Joint Integrated Units in the Ed Damazin area. This is the very course of action that SPLM pursued in the Abyei area in May 2011 when it attacked Sudan Armed Forces troops that formed part of the Joint Integrated Units.

This dangerous escalation by SPLM, Northern Sector, which is supported by the Government of South Sudan, was not a random event, but was, rather, planned in advance. Over the past days, we noted a series of events in preparation for that attack. One example of those preparations was the return of Mr. Agar to Ed Damazin from Juba on 23 August 2011. Immediately upon his return, he made a statement in the Wahdah district, south of Ed Damazin, in which he indicated that the initiatives with the National Congress Party would not succeed and that war was inevitable. He also made a statement at an event in the city of Rosairis on 29 August 2011 in which he called on the assembled youth to prepare for what he called the forthcoming crucial phase and affirmed that his forces stood ready. The implementation of the plan began when his forces imposed a curfew in the village of Bodi, south of Kurmuk, on 30 August 2011. He then deployed 25 Land Cruisers carrying soldiers and military equipment inside the city. This was followed, prior to the attack, by the evacuation of all ministers and members of SPLM, Northern Sector, who hold constitutional positions in the state government from Ed Damazin, the state capital, south to Kurmuk. SPLM, Northern Sector, forces then attacked several Sudan Armed Forces positions throughout Blue Nile state, including the command of the military contingent in the state and the areas of Ulu, Umin Darfa, Gisan, Wad al-Mahi and Menza. This action required the Sudan Armed Forces to intervene in order to repulse this heinous attack and restore security, the rule of law and public order in the state.

The attacks carried out by SPLM, Northern Sector, in the Blue Nile area coincided with a similar attack by the group in Southern Kordofan against the village of Marangi, a location in which neither the Sudan Armed Forces nor the police maintain a presence. Fourteen civilians were killed and 16 others injured in that attack. This clearly demonstrates that SPLM, Northern Sector, is planning to create instability in various parts of the country, leading to greater displacement of citizens and the deterioration of the humanitarian situation, for which it alone is responsible and for which it must be held accountable, sooner rather than later and

before the situation deteriorates, by the international community, represented by the Security Council and the United Nations Secretariat.

While bringing this dangerous escalation to the Council's attention, we would like to affirm that we are scrupulously following the path of reason and exercising self-restraint, in keeping with our principled and firmly established policy that is founded on the pursuit of a peaceful political resolution, not war. You are aware, however, from our letters to you over the past several days, that the situation has been exacerbated by the dangerous military escalation carried out in several areas by SPLM, Northern Sector, with the support of the Government of the nascent South Sudan. In view of the foregoing, we call on the Council to condemn in the strongest language these heinous and blatant military attacks and urge SPLM, Northern Sector, to cease military attacks and sit down to negotiations with the Government of the Sudan, in order to arrive at a peaceful resolution. We would also like to affirm that, should the international community, represented by the Security Council and the United Nations Secretariat, hesitate or fail to condemn these heinous attacks by SPLM, Northern Sector, which is supported by the Government of South Sudan, we reserve our right as a sovereign State, and in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, to respond to these transgressions in a manner that will bring about security and stability and ensure citizens' safety.

(Signed) Ali Ahmed **Karti**
Minister for Foreign Affairs